

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1935.

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Circulation During February.

W. R. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis
Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual
number of full and complete copies of The Daily
and Sunday Republic printed during the month of
February, 1935, all in regular editions, was as per
schedule below:

Date.....Copies.....
1.....102,700
2.....102,700
3.....102,700
4.....102,700
5.....102,700
6.....102,700
7.....102,700
8.....102,700
9.....102,700
10.....102,700
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21.....102,700
22.....102,700
23.....102,700
24.....102,700
25.....102,700
26.....102,700
27.....102,700
28.....102,700
29.....102,700
30.....102,700
Total for the month.....102,700

Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over
or filed.....70,000

Net number distributed.....32,700

Average daily distribution.....1,090

And said W. R. Carr further says that the number
of copies returned and reported unsold during
the month of February was 13,900 per cent.

W. R. CARR.
J. F. FARMER.

My term expires April 23, 1935.

AN INDEPENDENT VIEW.

At the opening meeting of the municipal cam-
paign, which took place at Leup's Hall, Wednes-
day evening, Judge H. E. Krombein, the principal
speaker, struck exactly the keynote of the cam-
paign.

He informed his hearers that he did not address
them as a Democrat but as one of their fellow-
citizens in the great business corporation which
is known as the City of St. Louis. He then pro-
ceeded to contrast conditions as they were four
years ago with conditions as they exist to-day, and
said among other things:

Four years ago the streets of the City of St.
Louis were in a ruinous condition, public franchises
of great value were traded in by its unscrupulous
representatives, in an open and defiant manner, its
public buildings were neglected and rapidly going
to decay, and its treasury was exhausted. Even its
transportation facilities were utterly demoralized,
owing to the absence of a firm hand, intent on secur-
ing just relations between employer and employee.
To-day the streets of St. Louis are in an excellent
condition, many miles of them having been recon-
structed with the most approved material, many of
its public buildings have been thoroughly repaired,
while those in process of construction have been
completed, and some new ones erected. St. Louis
to-day boasts the best street-car service in the
United States, and probably the best anywhere, and
there is no friction between employer and employee.

The speaker called attention to the fact that
while the municipal revenue funds four years ago
showed a deficit of \$121,746.96, at the end of the
present fiscal year it shows a balance to the city's
credit of \$674,174.76, a difference of almost \$800,
000. This notwithstanding the fact that during
the last four years \$124,000 more was expended for
the construction of sewers, nearly \$1,000,000 more
for the construction and reconstruction of streets,
and \$263,300 more for the construction and repair
of public buildings, than during the four years of
the preceding Republican administration.

He then proceeded to demonstrate that these
necessary expenditures, judiciously made, were
made feasible only by an assessment of all property
for taxation, and the honest and fearless collection
of the city's revenue; that, while property had not
materially increased in value, that part of it which
had formerly escaped taxation, or was inadequately
taxed, was made to bear its just burden by a
proper method of equalization.

The speaker called attention to the fact that the
tax valuation of central business property was in-
creased during the first year of the present ad-
ministration more than \$12,000,000, while the valua-
tion of modest homes in the southern and northern
parts of the city was not increased, but in many in-
stances reduced.

The following figures given by him, taken from
official records, are of general interest:

Increase in valuation of property for taxation in
1932, over that of 1931, \$25,000,000, of which \$10,
833,000 represents personal property.

Increase in valuation of property for taxation in
1934, over that of 1933, \$22,334,000, of which \$13,
643,000 represents personal property.

Increase in valuation of property for taxation in
1934 over that of 1933, \$22,334,000, of which \$13,
643,000 represents personal property.

The speaker proceeded to show that this vast
increase in the valuation of personal property was
due in a great measure to the fact that large cor-
porations which, under preceding Republican ad-
ministrations, were never made to bear their just
share of taxation, were during the last few years,
for the first time in the city's history, justly and
honestly taxed. He instance the Laclede Gas
Light Company, whose property, including its
license tax, was valued for taxation, in 1930, only
at \$2,067,000, while, in 1934, such valuation was
placed at \$10,330,000, and in 1935 at \$11,385,000.

As instances of the manner in which people un-

der former administrations were permitted to evade
taxation, the speaker referred to the practice of the
fictional conversion, before the initial day of assess-
ment, of other property into United States bonds,
which were exempt from taxation, and then the
fictional reconversion of such United States bonds
into other property after the initial day of taxation
had passed. He called attention to the fact that
the present administration did for the first time in
the city's history treat such conversion and recon-
version as a fraudulent evasion of taxation, and did
subject these values to taxation, notwithstanding
their fictional conversion into United States bonds.
It thus secured, a large additional revenue to the
city, and the decision was so just withal that none
of the parties affected saw fit to appeal.

The speaker alluded to some instances where
amounts due to the city as license taxes under ordi-
nances had not been collected under former ad-
ministrations. In one instance these taxes had ac-
cumulated for more than eight years, and amounted
to more than \$3,000. They were promptly enforced
and collected as soon as the present administration
took charge.

He then proceeded to refute the statement so
recklessly made by the opponents of the present
administration that this prosperous condition of the
city's finances was due to the increased rate of tax-
ation. He showed that while the total rate for
State, school and city taxes was increased from
\$1.90 to \$2.05 on the \$100 valuation, such increase
did not cause to the city for the benefit of its gen-
eral revenue. The increase in the rate was due to
the fact that the Board of Education, a wholly in-
dependent corporation, had increased its rate from
40 cents to 55 cents on the \$100 valuation, and that
a levy of 10 cents on the same valuation had to be
made for meeting the interest and establishing a
sinking fund for the World's Fair bond issue, thus
accounting for the entire increase of 25 cents. Both
these measures had been sanctioned by the citizens
of St. Louis, by an overwhelming majority, at a
popular election, but the money raised by this addi-
tional 25 cents did in part not go into the city's
coffers at all, and none of it went into its coffers
for municipal purposes, and hence the increase cuts
no figure at all in the results accomplished by the
present administration.

In conclusion the speaker spoke highly of the
personnel composing the Democratic ticket, and
made an earnest appeal to his hearers to continue
the administration in power, since it unquestionably
was one of the best if not the best administration
which the city ever had.

PLATFORMS CONTRASTED.

When a party organ says "We admit that we
have a bad candidate but we have a beautiful plat-
form" the American voter, who knows the facility
of promises and the rarity of their execution, un-
derstands that the party in question has nothing
good to offer.

Yesterday the Globe's comment on the Republi-
can City Convention was that Talty "does not fully
measure up to the requirements of the situation."

But, the Globe insists, the platform is fine. Then it
charges the Democrats with having no plat-
form.

Let us see about the platform. Under direct
primaries a written platform in detail is not usual.
But, in the first place, Mr. Wells declared his
convictions and purposes in a public letter when he
consented to stand for the nomination. That
declaration was approved by the party. If the
Globe insists on a platform to attack, it can do
battle with the letter.

As the people well know, however, the real plat-
form is the administration of Mayor Wells.

And this issue the Republicans formally recog-
nized. Their boasted platform is nothing but a
statement of opposition to the Wells policies and
performances in the maintenance of good govern-
ment. It admits the reality of the Democratic
platform of deeds and announces its fault-finding
criticism as its platform of words.

Take the Globe's own editorial. It says that the
Republican platform "condemns the Wells adminis-
tration as lax and dilatory." The Democratic plat-
form is that the Wells administration has been
energetic and effective.

"Censures the garbage fiasco and abomination."

The Democratic platform congratulates the city on
the escape from Butler domination and approves
the method adopted by Mr. Wells.

"Points out the increase of taxation from \$1.95
to \$2.10 on the \$100 valuation." The Democratic
platform says that this increase was voted by the
people for World's Fair bonds and for School Board
purposes; and Democrats support the wishes of the
people. The Republicans condemn the voters who
ordered the World's Fair bonds and the School
Board increase.

"Refers to the dangerous use of chemicals in the
water supply." The Democratic platform approves
the clarification of the water at a nominal expense.

"Denounces the State board system of governing
the city." Neither Mr. Wells nor any other Demo-
crat on the municipal ticket has anything to do with
this system. The Police Board system was started
forty years ago and more; and was maintained
when Republicans were in power.

The Globe and the Republican convention saw
and acknowledged what was the Democratic plat-
form. They do no more than perfunctorily declare
opposition. Boiled down, the Globe editorial is just
this: "We have a candidate unfit for the office and
a platform which is nothing but a series of knocks
for everything achieved by the Wells adminis-
tration; that is to say, no platform at all."

Let the campaign proceed on the issue as chosen
by the gang organ.

THE LINE-UP AGAINST REFORM.

To the average voter the local political situation
could not be clearer. The Butler influence is seen
distinctly in the whole antagonism to the Wells
administration. The policy, "Anything to beat
Wells," stands out conspicuously in the nominations
and the platform of the Republicans and in the
nominations and the platform offered by the so-
called independents. In fact, citizens need not tax
their memories to recall an identical situation but a
few years ago.

There is only one difference between the situa-
tion which existed a few years ago, when a third
ticket helped Butler's object, and the situation now,
when a third ticket is in the field and active against
Butler's enemies. At this time the tickets which
are opposing the Wells administration, and thereby
are aiding Butler, are standing against reform and
progress and they obstruct the preservation of
standard government.

The Republican ticket nominated this week by
the convention is put forth by the old bipartisan
gang and it embraces members of the old bipartisan
gang. The Republican platform adopted by the
convention was formulated by members of the old
gang, and it denounces the reform accomplished
through business administration. The independent
ticket, which ostensibly professes the principles of
municipal ownership, has at its head a nominee who
has never held municipal enterprises except during
campaigns; it has among other nominees a man
who is now because he failed of appointment by
Mayor Wells; it has among its campaign managers

a politician of the same type as Butler, and it has
the support of malcontents in general.

By way of emphasis, it ought to be said that
"Colonel" Butler himself is doing "some mixing"
among the "boys" to defeat the Wells ticket, and
that the other politician, who is of the same type
as Butler, is also working against the Wells ticket.
It should be enough for the voters to know that the
Wells administration repudiates the gang and that
the gang is struggling hard in behalf of both op-
posing tickets.

The Republic is confident that the people of St.
Louis will not overlook their duty in this campaign
and that they will not let themselves be deceived
by the gang. The citizens are now experienced in
practical politics. They know that, as the gang
supports the Republican ticket, the gang does so be-
cause it is to the gang's interest to beat Wells and
displace with good government. They know that
an independent ticket, fighting the Wells adminis-
tration, is an instrument for weakening the Wells
reform ticket. They easily can understand the
gang's plan of campaign. It is "Anything to beat
Wells."

There is no necessity of inquiring why the gang
prefers the Republican ticket and the bipartisan
Republican ticket to the Wells ticket. The reason
for the opposition from the gang is the Wells ad-
ministration's record of reform and business gov-
ernment. The gang's antagonism is due to dis-
satisfaction with reform and advancement and to
the Wells administration's repudiation of the gang.

Facts are offered in this campaign for the en-
lightenment of the voters. The public is familiar
with the records of those who oppose reform and
business government, and, on the other hand, it ap-
preciates the achievements of the Wells adminis-
tration. Moreover, it understands the political situa-
tion, and sees through the gang's trickery. Under
the Wells administration the public is sure of good
government. The voters cannot afford to recognize
the opposition. The re-election of the Wells party
is an assurance of the preservation of good gov-
ernment.

Attempts by Republican managers to disrupt the
Democratic party with the temptation of electing
Governor Folk to the Senate will fail. Governor
Folk will not consider the overture and Democratic
legislators will hold firmly to the convention in-
struction and the caucus action which chose Sen-
ator Cockrell. The Democratic party will maintain
good faith with the people.

The Harmonie Hall convention is bound to strike
discord among the Republican voters, especially
those of the class who have the city and good gov-
ernment at heart. Wednesday's nominations made
thousands of staunch Wells supporters out of good
Republican citizens who resent Butler's domination
of their party's affairs.

After objecting to street improvements and to
good government in general, the machine organs
profess keen regret that the water is clarified. Does
the public agree with the organs? Shall St. Louis
go backward? Shall the clarification be discontinued,
and muddy water be supplied again?

Burglars failed in their efforts to open a black-
smith's safe with sledgehammers. They broke the
combination, but not the safe. Moral: Never knock.

With a few more negroes appointed to important
offices, Mr. Roosevelt will turn Federal pie contests
into regular cakewalks.

HOTAIRSHIP DISPATCH.

Springfield, Saturn, March 15.—Scientists on this planet
are amused by the report that Earth astronomers claim
to have discovered a retrograde motion in our moon No.
1. Those of our inhabitants who are conversant with
the affairs of the universe are at a loss for a reason
for christening this satellite Phoebe.

Granting the premise that it travels backward, it
would seem appropriate and timely to name it Kuro-
patkin. But the facts do not bear out the conclusions
of Professor Pickering, who is well known here by reason
of his former connection with Washington Univer-
sity. He is not traveling backward. The pro-
fessor is simply the victim of an optical illusion caused
by the rapid forward movement of America.

It is interesting to note that observers in Russia and
Turkey report that the satellite is advancing so rapidly
that they have been unable to keep track of its flight.
This goes to show that all things are relative and that
the point of view has much to do with the accuracy
of observations, as the small boy at the knot hole said
when he thought he was a home run was a foul tip
which hit him in the eye.

For the information of Earth astronomers your cor-
respondent is at liberty to state that Saturn really has
twenty-three moons. It is not true that this planet
has "heeled over." This also was an optical illusion.
In reality Earth stopped when Missouri went Republican.

RECENT COMMENT.

A Politician's Sacred Person.

Collier's Weekly.

Less majestic is a conception which has received small
consideration in America. Judge Herrick, defeated can-
didate for Governor of New York, recently scolded the
newspapers for commenting so caustically on politicians,
because, forsooth, it destroyed confidence in said poli-
ticians. As if that were not the very object Judge
Herrick ought to have lunch with Governor Penny-
packer, when two great souls could weep as one, when
each, observing the consolingness of the press, could
burst his mighty heart. A learned subscriber writes to
"Dear Mr. Editor: Concerning the drawings in your
paper dated January 23 and February 11, I am astonished
to find in what pretends to be a refined publication
pictures, disgracing the public, their elected representa-
tives, the national Capitol (the pride of every Ameri-
can), in fact our country. For I am one of the public,
a workman, and I do not want to be compared with a
poor skinny dog. I bear a higher estimation of myself.
What will people in foreign countries think of Americans
when they see such drawings, and how will they act
on the minds of many Americans?" He goes on to the
familiar argument that trusts are lowering prices. His
view of monopoly is a legitimate one, but why should
he object to a cartoonist expressing the opposite view
in this paper? A man who fears that such intelligent
criticism of public affairs as is furnished by our better
newspapers is dangerous has traits in common with the
lowest bird extant. A failure to argue these topics
out in full is much more dangerous.

Reasons for Things.

Mr. Rockefeller ordered repairs to a Lakewood church
because water leaked in freely. He might order repairs
to Wall street for the same reason.

The last which Mrs. Roosevelt wore at the in-
auguration was designed by an Indiana milliner. Which
proves that not all of Indiana's poems are those of the
quill and the midnight oil.

Russia is preparing a fourth Baltic fleet. A block
signal system had better be installed, or there will be a
terrible rear-end collision with the Third, Second and
First.

Chatterbox Chatterbox: "Could you spare me an old
pair of trousers, mum?"

Mrs. Winrow: "Yes; do you want anything else?"

Chatterbox Chatterbox: "Oh, yes. I'd like about fifty
millions and a seat in the Senate—but dat kin wait!"

Next House Noonan: "Did I ever work at all?"

Peep O'Day: "Yes; I was a carpenter, and I retired
about fifteen years ago."

Carey: "An' what did ye name th' baby after th'?"

Carey: "Well, he don't know a dom thing about
anything an' still he's th' best."

MORNING CHORAL GIVE CONCERT;
MRS. CALHOUN TO ENTERTAIN D. A. R.

MRS. CORINE SIMPSON,
Of Maryland avenue, who is visiting in the South.

The Morning Choral concert in the
Odeon Recital Hall yesterday morning
was a success. The attendance was larger
than any previous concert of the season.

The stage was artistically decorated
with smilax and palms and bay trees.
The programme was one of the most in-
teresting that the club has given. Mrs.
Mary Pearson rendered several piano se-
lections. The quartet, composed of Mrs.
Chappell, Mrs. Hannauer, Mrs. Annan and
Mrs. McCandless, gave selections.

The Jefferson Chapter of the Daugh-
ters of the American Revolution will give
a reception, which will be the formal
opening of the social season at Mrs. D.
L. Calhoun's home, Saturday, March 23.

Mrs. Jack Brunner of Maryland avenue
has returned from an extended Southern
trip.

Mrs. Martin Shaugnessy is visiting in
Baltimore.

Miss Sallie Tensdale, who is traveling
with her mother abroad, is in Alabama.

Miss Ruth Orthwein and Miss Edna
Ramsay have gone to Europe.

Mrs. L. S. Parker of Jefferson City is
visiting friends in St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. William North, who have
resided in Portland, Ore., for some time,
are home again.

Miss Violet Albright, who is with her
mother in San Francisco, is recovering
from illness.

Mrs. Belle Everett, who was the Colo-
rado member of the Board of Lady Man-
agers at St. Louis, March 2, is expected
to return to St. Louis by way of Chicago
after a week at Niagara Falls.

Misses Mary and Jess Karmes returned
to their home at Mexico, Mo., after a
month's visit to their sister, Mrs. Dagosa
Smith, who is at the home.

Mrs. William Boyle of London, England,
who has been visiting her mother, Mrs.
Annie Lynn of Normandy, will be home
on the 18th. She will be accompanied by
her friends at Normandy on Sun-
day, March 19 and 20.

H. Kleinber has returned from a visit
to his relatives in Washington, D. C., Bal-
timore, Md., and New York.

News comes from San Francisco that

Mrs. Corine Simpson of No. 488 Mary-
land avenue is visiting in the South.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Berada Widen have re-
turned from their Cuban journey.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Wangle of Morgan
shook who returned to St. Louis from
Los Angeles, Cal., on March 1, are now
traveling through Canada, and expect to
return to St. Louis by way of Chicago
after a week at Niagara Falls.

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News comes from San Francisco that

HOW THE POLICE DEPARTMENTS
OF VARIOUS CITIES ARE MANAGED

Advantages and Defects Shown in Systems in Vogue Among Ten
Large Municipalities—"Home-Rule" Scheme Contrasted With
State Control—Differences Exist in Every Place.

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